

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

R. ROSEWATER, Editor.
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$1.00
Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$1.50
Six Months, .60
Three Months, .35
Sunday Bee, One Year, \$1.00
Saturday Bee, One Year, \$1.00
Weekly Bee, One Year, \$1.00

Omaha, The Bee Building,
Fourth Omaha, Fifth Bldg., Cor. 2nd and 15th Sts.
Council Bluffs, 15 North Main street.
Chicago Office, 217 Chamber of Commerce.
New York, Rooms 13, 14 and 15, Tribune Bldg.
Washington, 1407 P Street, N. W.

COMMUNICATIONS:
All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to the Editor.

BUSINESS LETTERS:
All business letters and notices should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company.
Omaha, Drafts, checks and postoffice orders to be made payable to the order of The Bee Publishing Company.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION:
George H. Trenchard, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, deposes that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Bee, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of February, 1896, was as follows:

1895	18,129	18,129
1896	18,129	18,129
1897	18,129	18,129
1898	18,129	18,129
1899	18,129	18,129
1900	18,129	18,129
1901	18,129	18,129
1902	18,129	18,129
1903	18,129	18,129
1904	18,129	18,129
1905	18,129	18,129
1906	18,129	18,129
1907	18,129	18,129
1908	18,129	18,129
1909	18,129	18,129
1910	18,129	18,129
1911	18,129	18,129
1912	18,129	18,129
1913	18,129	18,129
1914	18,129	18,129
1915	18,129	18,129
1916	18,129	18,129
1917	18,129	18,129
1918	18,129	18,129
1919	18,129	18,129
1920	18,129	18,129
1921	18,129	18,129
1922	18,129	18,129
1923	18,129	18,129
1924	18,129	18,129
1925	18,129	18,129
1926	18,129	18,129
1927	18,129	18,129
1928	18,129	18,129
1929	18,129	18,129
1930	18,129	18,129
1931	18,129	18,129
1932	18,129	18,129
1933	18,129	18,129
1934	18,129	18,129
1935	18,129	18,129
1936	18,129	18,129
1937	18,129	18,129
1938	18,129	18,129
1939	18,129	18,129
1940	18,129	18,129
1941	18,129	18,129
1942	18,129	18,129
1943	18,129	18,129
1944	18,129	18,129
1945	18,129	18,129
1946	18,129	18,129
1947	18,129	18,129
1948	18,129	18,129
1949	18,129	18,129
1950	18,129	18,129
1951	18,129	18,129
1952	18,129	18,129
1953	18,129	18,129
1954	18,129	18,129
1955	18,129	18,129
1956	18,129	18,129
1957	18,129	18,129
1958	18,129	18,129
1959	18,129	18,129
1960	18,129	18,129
1961	18,129	18,129
1962	18,129	18,129
1963	18,129	18,129
1964	18,129	18,129
1965	18,129	18,129
1966	18,129	18,129
1967	18,129	18,129
1968	18,129	18,129
1969	18,129	18,129
1970	18,129	18,129
1971	18,129	18,129
1972	18,129	18,129
1973	18,129	18,129
1974	18,129	18,129
1975	18,129	18,129
1976	18,129	18,129
1977	18,129	18,129
1978	18,129	18,129
1979	18,129	18,129
1980	18,129	18,129
1981	18,129	18,129
1982	18,129	18,129
1983	18,129	18,129
1984	18,129	18,129
1985	18,129	18,129
1986	18,129	18,129
1987	18,129	18,129
1988	18,129	18,129
1989	18,129	18,129
1990	18,129	18,129
1991	18,129	18,129
1992	18,129	18,129
1993	18,129	18,129
1994	18,129	18,129
1995	18,129	18,129
1996	18,129	18,129
1997	18,129	18,129
1998	18,129	18,129
1999	18,129	18,129
2000	18,129	18,129

Net sales, \$10,000.00
Net daily average, \$10,000.00

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 23rd day of March, 1896.
(Seal) Notary Public.

Italy has a new cabinet. Its next pressing need is a new army.

Police reform has made another step forward. Peter Schwenk is now confirmed clerk of the police court.

If the Spanish students would do more studying and less rioting they would pass their examinations at the end of the year much easier and much better.

With a Manderson club in Thurston county and a McKinley club in Omaha declaring for Manderson, Nebraska has grounds for a claim to first place as the home of political antitheses.

Still the clamor for a complete adjustment of the controversy over terminal charges at South Omaha goes on. It will not cease until all the roads centering there shall follow the example of the Missouri Pacific and Rock Island.

It was not so much that the Spanish minister spoke, but what he spoke. If he had only said something real flattering to the United States senate his remarks might have been quoted with approval or at least been passed by unnoticed.

Dr. Jameson, who made that unsuccessful Transvaal expedition, must stand trial for violating the foreign enlistment act. This is doubtless to afford him the opportunity to realize the wide chasm that separates success from failure.

There is really no great hurry for filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of Councilman Lemly. Seventeen councilmen can do the business of the city just as efficiently as eighteen and by keeping one chair vacant in the council chamber the city will save \$900 a year.

Congress threatens to reduce the price of gas in the District of Columbia. The rest of the country has long been amazed how the Washington gas companies managed to keep the price of gas up in spite of the competition of a congressional session lasting the greater part of the year.

The steady growth of the South Omaha horse market is unexpected as it is gratifying. The popular belief obtains that the day of the horse is numbered and that the demand for horses will never be active, but experience in this market shows that good horses are in active demand and bring good prices.

Chicago is trembling with a paroxysm of fear over the information that in case of war with Great Britain the enemy would have no difficulty in taking possession of the World's Fair city. In fact, Chicago does not know how near Great Britain came to sending out a fleet and taking the Columbian exposition away from it.

While you are comparing papers look at the want columns of The Bee and World-Herald. Comparison is disadvantageous to the "long wide columns" men enough—World-Herald. Certainly it is. But in making the comparison don't forget that nearly half of the World-Herald's want columns are filled with free gift ads and a good part of the remainder represents swaps payable in grindstones and junk. People who have to give away their wares generally have the correct idea of their value.

It is now beginning to dawn upon congress that fast mail trains run for the special benefit of Chicago newspapers are an expensive appendage to the postal service. The fast mail service is a special delivery and the people who profit by it should pay the extra expense involved. That would be no more unfair than making the merchant or banker who desires to insure immediate delivery of his letters to put an extra stamp upon each envelope.

The appointment by Governor Holcomb of Judge Neville as the vice president for Nebraska of the Transmississippi exposition will be generally approved. He is a representative man. Judge Neville, now of North Platte, was for many years a resident of Omaha and once represented Douglas county in the legislature. For more than a decade he has been prominently identified with western Nebraska and is one of the leading citizens in that section of the state. He may be relied upon to take an active interest in the exposition.

THE OHIO REPUBLICANS.

There is general interest in the proceedings of the Ohio republican convention just held for two reasons. In the first place it has demonstrated that all factional and personal differences will be sacrificed to state pride and that the delegation representing the republicans of Ohio at St. Louis will give its undivided support to the favorite son of the Buckeye state.

In the second place, the platform utterances of the Ohio republicans have unusual significance as reflecting the position of the candidate of that state for the presidency and as indicating the character of the platform as to national issues he would desire in the event of his nomination at St. Louis. It is stated that the planks relating to the tariff and to finance were written by McKinley, but whether such is the fact or not there can be no doubt they were approved by him before being submitted to the convention, and in any event they are intended to express his views. It will be noted that the declaration regarding the tariff, while denouncing the present law, does not promise a restoration of the preceding tariff act. It insists upon protection, but it does not propose to attain that condition by readopting the tariff legislation of six years ago. In his address at the banquet in Chicago, commemorative of the birthday of Lincoln, Major McKinley said: "It may be asked what the next republican tariff law will provide. I cannot tell you. I cannot tell you what the rates will be, but they will measure the difference between American and European conditions and will be fully adequate to protect ourselves from the invasion of our markets to the injury of American labor, and will in no case be too low to protect and exalt American labor and promote and increase American production." Those who assert that McKinley, if elected president, would demand the re-enactment of the law which bears his name will find no warrant for that opinion in the tariff plank of the Ohio republican platform.

The financial plank of the platform may not be as explicit as some would wish. There is a demand for an unequivocal declaration by the republican party against the free and unlimited coinage of silver at 16 to 1 and the duty of doing this will be urged upon the national convention. But the Ohio republicans adhere to the national platform of 1892, the currency declaration of which was satisfactory to the party then and is doubtless still favorably regarded by a majority of republicans. "We contend for honest money," plainly declares the Ohio republicans, and, while favoring the use of both gold and silver, clearly imply that the coinage of the latter shall be subject to such restrictions as are necessary to maintain the parity of the two metals. We venture to think that honest money republicans generally will assent to this.

The declaration of the Ohio republicans on these commanding and vital questions places the country in possession of accurate knowledge regarding the position of Major McKinley and hence has at this time uncommon interest and importance.

COSTLY, IF NOT IMPRACTICABLE.

The board of engineers which investigated the Nicaragua canal project did not conclude that it is impracticable, but found that it would cost a great deal more than the estimates of the canal company. The provisional estimate made by the board is a little over \$133,000,000, which is \$64,000,000 in excess of the amount which the company estimated the canal would cost. There is no doubt that the figures presented by the board of engineers are more trustworthy than those of the company, because the former had no motive to make other than a fair estimate, while there are obvious business reasons for an underestimate by the projectors of the canal. They would be more likely to obtain capital upon an estimate of cost of \$66,000,000 than upon one of \$133,000,000, and they could make a better showing as to probable returns to investors.

But while the engineers did not pronounce the project impracticable, there are some whose opinion is worthy of high consideration who believe it to be. Prominent among these is Mr. Joseph Nimmo, formerly chief of the bureau of statistics of the Treasury department, who has given very thorough study to the Nicaragua canal enterprise. Mr. Nimmo does not say that the canal cannot be constructed, because that is a question about which he could not speak with any authority, but he asserts that if constructed the canal could not possibly pay, because there is very little commercial need for any means of transit across the isthmus. He says that the tonnage of the canal would be less than 1,000,000 tons annually instead of the 8,000,000 assumed by its advocates, that it would cost a great deal more than the highest estimate, and that for military purposes the country that was compelled to defend and keep it open would have an elephant on its hands.

Estimates of the tonnage likely to use an isthmian canal are, in Mr. Nimmo's opinion, absurdly exaggerated by the advocates both of the Panama and Nicaragua canals. A computation made by him in 1880 on the basis of official reports of actual trade movements put the tonnage then likely to use a canal at 1,625,000 tons. Since 1880 such changes have taken place in the conditions of governing commerce on land and sea that at present 500,000 tons, in Mr. Nimmo's opinion, is a large estimate of the tonnage likely to use any canal across the isthmus. On the cost of the Nicaragua route estimated by the board of engineers interest at 4 per cent would be \$5,320,000. In order to provide for the interest alone there would have to be a tonnage charge which it is believed would be prohibitory. In addition to this would be the cost for supervision, maintenance and operation, estimated at \$1,500,000. It is plain that these charges could not be provided for from any probable tonnage that would use the canal. The success of the Suez canal is commonly cited as indicating what the Nicaragua canal would do, but Mr. Nimmo thinks it impossible to infer from the traffic

of the former anything favorable to the latter, which is so differently situated.

The facts and arguments presented by Mr. Nimmo, who is a most intelligent and painstaking statistician, are exceedingly plausible, and while of course the projectors and advocates of the canal take issue with them they cannot be dismissed as of no value. It is hardly probable that anything will be done at the present session of congress in regard to the Nicaragua canal, though it is believed there is a majority in both houses favorable to giving the enterprise the financial assistance of the government to the extent of guaranteeing the interest on \$100,000,000 of bonds. There is reason to think, however, that the supporters of this proposition are not so numerous as before the board of engineers submitted its report and estimate.

GOING BACK ON RETRENCHMENT.

When the proposition to reduce salaries of clerks and employees was before the council last year City Attorney Connell held that no reduction could be made because the charter provision that prohibits the reduction of the salary of any city officer or agent during the term for which he is elected or appointed also applies to all clerks and employees in the various departments of the city government. For that reason the salary reduction ordinance was so framed as not to go into effect until the beginning of the present year. If this construction of the law still holds good the proposition to increase the salary of the mayor's secretary and those of the deputy treasurer and clerks in the treasurer's office is clearly an attempt to override the charter. The same clause which prevented the reduction of the salaries for the year 1895 prohibits also the increase of those salaries during the year 1896. The terms of office or employment of each of these incumbents began since the retrenchment ordinance went into effect and is presumed to continue during the two years for which the mayor and treasurer were elected. In accepting their places each man knew what his salary was to be and the conditions of his employment. If he is now dissatisfied he has the privilege of retiring.

If the council once undertakes to raise salaries for particular favorites it may as well let the bars down altogether. There is no complaint that the men are overworked. There is no danger that they will vacate their places if the salaries remain as at present, and if there were, there are ten competent and worthy men ready to take these places at present salaries the moment the opportunity is offered. The raising of salaries once begun will not stop with the mayor's secretary or with the treasurer's clerks. It is sure to extend into the comptroller's office and the city clerk's office and every other office in the city hall.

Quite apart from the charter prohibition of salary raising it must be borne in mind that there is still a big hole in the treasury from the Bohn declaration. The ability of the taxpayers to bear the burdens of local government has not been perceptibly improved. No other corporation or employer in Omaha is raising salaries just now and there is no good reason why the city should increase its salary list in the face of the conditions with which it is confronted.

A UNITED ADMINISTRATION.

The note recently given to the press by Mr. Cleveland, in which he discredited the report relative to the attitude of the administration on the Cuban question, naturally created the impression that the president and secretary of state were not of one mind respecting the question of acknowledging belligerent rights. It also suggested that Mr. Cleveland, indignant at the report sent out by Mr. Olney, had taken the unusual means of rebuking somebody by sending to the press of the country the note disclaiming all responsibility for the statement of the administration's position. It appears, however, that these surmises as to a difference of opinion between the president and secretary of state were groundless. According to the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, who is presumed to have first reported the statement, Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Olney agree perfectly on the Cuban question and the correspondent quotes a member of the cabinet as saying that there has never been the slightest ground for the reports of dissensions in the cabinet. Still it is hard to give up the belief that the president and his advisers have not always been in harmony and there is good reason to think that Mr. Cleveland has found it frequently necessary during the present administration to insist upon his views against the vigorous opposition of some members of his cabinet. The fact is the president does not brook much opposition and when he has made up his mind to have anything go a certain way the members of the cabinet readily fall in with him. He probably made more concessions to the late Secretary Gresham than to any other member of the administration.

If Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Olney are of one mind on the Cuban question there is very little chance that the insurgents will be accorded belligerent rights, for it is well known that the secretary of state does not believe that the conditions are such at present as to justify the government in giving such recognition. It is not to be doubted that the statement of the administration's position which Mr. Cleveland objected to was correct.

One of the counts in the articles of impeachment formulated and filed in the district court by Haswell and Wheeler against Mayor Bemis was the charge that he had persisted in reappointing a city electrician who had been rejected by the council. While the charter is silent as regards the right of the mayor to repeat a nomination once made and not confirmed, and, although precedent was on the side of the mayor, Haswell and Wheeler declared this to be a misdemeanor in office. But when the present mayor, in violation of the

specific provisions of the charter, nominates men who are disqualified from holding the positions Haswell and Wheeler record their votes for confirmation. Three years ago Haswell was the chief engineer of the garbage contract in the council and Wheeler was chief fireman. They cannot plead ignorance now as to the relation of the new poundmaster to the city. Who is impeachable now?

Is there any part of the charter which is binding on the mayor and council? If so we would like to have the city law department point it out. The charter prescribes the qualifications of the city boiler inspector, but that did not prevent the appointment and confirmation of a man who was debarred by the charter from holding the position. The charter prohibits any agent, employee or officer of the city from being directly or indirectly interested in any contract with the city. Yet the mayor appointed the garbage contractor to the position of city poundmaster and this illegal appointment has been confirmed by the council. When the chief executive and the legislative branch of the municipal government deliberately nullify the law that they have sworn to obey and without which they would have no official existence, what are we to expect of citizens who are bound by no official oaths?

At the meeting of the republican county central committee a suggestion was made that provision for receiving democrats into the republican ranks was in order. This was voted down. A member said it would be time to receive repentant democrats after they had voted with the republicans at the next election. This was a blunder. When a democrat is willing to publicly declare his conversion to the republican faith he should be received with open arms and permitted to participate in primaries and conventions if he has friends enough to send him to the delegate bodies of the party. The republican party wants all the recruits it can get.

The senate subcommittee to which was referred the bill for the admission of New Mexico to statehood has decided to make a report favorable to its enactment to the senate. There is no immediate prospect of its passage by both houses and approval by the president in time to entitle New Mexico to representation in the electoral college this year, but the report will be sufficient basis for New Mexico to claim a few additional votes in the party nominating conventions.

And now the postal authorities have been persuaded to proceed against Mayor Sutro for violating the postal laws in his campaign against the Huntington Pacific railroad debt funding scheme. If Huntington only thought a few arrests would pull his bill through congress he might consent to pass a few nights in jail himself. It is evident that he would stop at nothing to gain his point.

Last Laugh the Best.

Secretary Morton is having a laugh last. He is coolly turning down congressional applications for places in his seed room, where there have been some jobs for the way of putting up the congressional perquisites. Mr. Huntington has made a demand and announces that he will hereafter buy his seeds in original packages as being much more economical.

The Secretive C. P.

C. P. Huntington proved to be an interesting witness before the senate investigating committee, but Senator Morgan's best efforts failed to get any material testimony out of him. Mr. Huntington has made a thirty-year study of how to hold on to things, and he is not likely to give up anything at this late day if he can help it.

They Will Not Mix.

Once again it is proposed that the democrats of Nebraska should be a primary election whether a gold or silver delegation shall go to the national convention. Previous to the same time the democrats of Nebraska have refused to do so, and they agree to abide by the decision. Oil and water will not mix. Gold men and silver men have no place in the same party.

Increasing the Circulation.

National bank circulation has increased over \$5,000,000 since the new bond issue and is still growing rapidly. The profit of issuing national bank notes under the present law is so slight that they are rarely put out except when there is a demand for money. This rapid increase in circulation does not bear out the opinion of some financiers that the currency needs further contraction.

A Monstrous Assumption.

The monstrous assumption is made by a Berlin paper that a European power has a right to employ any means it sees fit in crushing out a rebellion in one of its colonies. This simply means that a large part of the human family, even though it be fighting against the most oppressive tyranny, is not entitled to such rights as the rules of civilized warfare are meant to bestow. America can never subscribe to so barbarous a doctrine.

Japan's Naval Plans.

Japan's modest plan for the next nine years includes the construction and equipment of a navy which shall equal in fighting capacity the combined fleets of England, France, Russia, Germany and the United States on the Pacific. The displacement tonnage of these fleets at the present time is 188,000 tons and Japan's will be 200,000 tons when finished. She is establishing smelting works and a foundry in order to utilize her own iron ore. Within the same period she expects to double her army, making a total of 500,000 men. And then—look out.

Buncombe Resolutions.

Even congressmen are beginning to see that all the fuss about the new bond issue over Cuba amounts to nothing. Whether the senate does or does not pass the house resolutions, the relations of this country to the insurrection cannot be changed until the executive acts—and this is coming to be acknowledged even in Washington. It is believed that the habit of paying outlaws for Cuba in congress has been expressed in full knowledge of this fact, and that a great many votes were given for the resolutions in house and senate which should not have been given had they not been pure buncombe.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder
ABSOLUTELY PURE

THE PRESIDENTIAL FIELD.

Chicago Times-Herald (rep.): Mr. Platt's effort to hatch Morton delegates in Indiana by the political incubation process will be sure to attract national attention.
Globe-Democrat (rep.): By April 1 thirteen republican state conventions for the election of delegates to the national convention will have been held, and eight more have been called for April, so that by May 1 probably a definite estimate can be made as to the relative strength of the several candidates.

New York Mail and Express (rep.): There are service indications that a presidential boom for John Griffith Carlisle is being quietly organized in this city. The gentleman's presence here, the big dinners preparing for him and the general understanding that the Kentucky Bar is willing, all support the impression that the secretary's friends in New York are stealthily scheming to make him the leader of the melancholy democratic procession which is scheduled to march up to the sacrificial altar next fall.

Minneapolis Tribune (rep.): Mark A. Hanna of Cleveland is not only Major McKinley's closest manager, but he is also at the head of the consolidated railroad interest of the Forest City, and finds time to combine business with politics sufficiently often to make a 5-cent stock sale, universal transfers, a percentage of his gross receipts and all necessary paving and other street repairs to the city of Cleveland in the twinkling of an eye.
It looks as though it would be a good year for Cleveland to do business with Hanna.

Philadelphia Times (dem.): The only question for the democrats to consider at Chicago is the nomination of the best man who can be selected to fight the battle of 1896. However unpromising the outcome may be, the duty of the party to offer to the nation the best man who can be selected is paramount, and whether the democrats shall be victors or vanquished in the coming contest, they could have no cleaner, better credit than that of E. P. Feltus, the honest money, honest government, honest politics and honest administration. The party that fails with such a candidate and a platform can fight hopeful battles in the future.

New York Sun (dem.): These are great days and crowded for the Hon. Marcus Antonius Hanna, the original and only genuine copy of McKinley's humor. He works as hard counting up delegates. The map of the United States is before him. Into every county but forty-one he has stuck pins to indicate McKinley districts. He has taken New England away from Reed by the expenditure of a small paper of pins. New York has been snatched from Governor Morton by the same means. Pennsylvania is the map of the Beaver. Every state is solid; only a few more counties remain to be conquered. Hot-house grapes grow and ferment into wine in the warmth of the sun, and the map has been replaced by a globe. The sunlight falling on his long, wide forehead, his thoughtful and earnest face, his robes of any disguise of hair, floods the state and strikes against Major McKinley's canon in Canton with a force that makes him run to the driveway where he keeps his fire insurance policy. The Hon. Marcus Antonius Hanna is happy. His only regret is that there are not more countries in the United States.

A CONVENIENT MEMORY.

Mr. Huntington's Mind Alert or Dull on Occasion Reculいた.
Chicago Chronicle.

Mr. C. P. Huntington favored the senate committee on Pacific railroads with a statement of the amounts realized by the Central Pacific on various securities, all of which, and the proceeds of land sales besides, he claims was applied to the construction of the road. He declared in substance that the different classes of bonds were sold at par in greenbacks, which were worth only 60 cents in the dollar in gold. The stock, he brought, brought only 10 cents in greenbacks or 6 cents in gold on the dollar. On the basis he figured the proceeds as follows:

Government bonds, \$20,000,000	Par value, \$20,000,000
First mortgage bonds, 20,000,000	20,000,000
Second mortgage bonds, 20,000,000	20,000,000
Land bonds, 10,000,000	6,000,000
Capital stock, 60,000,000	3,600,000
Totals, \$120,000,000	\$32,400,000